

## A QUALITATIVE DESCRIPTIVE STUDY OF THE SUPPLY AND DEMAND FOR EAST JAVA COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTRES PHARMACIST

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There is increasing demand for pharmacist in community health centres due to expanding pharmaceutical services from product oriented to patient oriented. Pharmacy regulation provide information about pharmaceutical care activities in a community health centre, i.e. assessing the legal and clinical appropriateness of prescriptions, giving drug information and counselling, and doing ward rounds; besides planning, dispensing, distributing, and documenting drug use. There are 949 community health centres (puskesmas) which is distributed to 38 district or city in East Java; 161 pharmacists and 692 pharmacy technicians. Some puskesmas did not have any pharmacist or pharmacy technicians. A puskesmas would be able to provide a good pharmaceutical care if they have sufficient and competent pharmacist. In 2010, the ratio of pharmacist is about 1 pharmacist for 10.000 populations, every year the number of graduate pharmacist is about 3.500 from 61 school of pharmacy (undergraduate programs, S1). There are a lot of licenced pharmacist, but most of them work at pharmacy (medical dispensing). In 2012 fifteen school of pharmacy have accreditation A; 15 school of pharmacy have accreditation B; 29 school of pharmacy have accreditation C; and another 7 have not accredited yet. Their competencies are varied. There is a gap between supply and demand for pharmacist. These issues also comes out from interview with provincial or district health office staff. They said not only about limited resources and a lack of self-confidence, but also interpersonal relationship and drug affordability.

**Key words:** workforce pharmacist, community health centres, East Java

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